

Message Text

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42

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 179

INFO CINCUSNAVEUR

NAVY DEPARTMENT/JAG

FLEET SUPPORT OFFICE/ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 6483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, MILL, OGEN, GR

SUBJECT: CASE OF MSG TELESFORO SANCHEZ

REF: ATHENS 6096

1. THE TRIAL OF MSG SANCHEZ FINISHED TODAY (AUGUST 26)
AT NEA MAKRI.

2. SANCHEZ WAS ACQUITTED, REPEAT ACQUITTED, OF ATTEMPTED
RAPE CHARGE. HE WAS CONVICTED, REPEAT CONVICTED, ON CHARGES
OF ASSAULT UPON A MINOR AND UNLAWFUL ENTRY. SENTENCE
WAS TWO REPEAT TWO YEARS IN CONFINEMENT AT HARD LABOR,
REDUCTION IN GRADE FROM E-5 TO E-3, AND FORFEITURE OF ALL
PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR TWO YEARS.

3. MILITARY AUTHORITIES PLAN TO REMOVE SANCHEZ FROM
GREECE TOMORROW. WE ARE ADVISING MFA OF PLANNED PROCEDURE
BUT ANTICIPATE NO OBJECTION.

4. FYI: A MAJOR FACTOR IN ACQUITTAL ON ATTEMPTED RAPE
CHARGE WAS STRIKING OF TESTIMONY OF CHIEF PROSECUTION
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WITNESS. THIS POLICE OFFICIAL, APPARENTLY EMBARRASSED TO

ADMIT HIS FAILURE TO PERFORM A LABORATORY TEST, REFUSED,
DESPITE REPEATED DIRECTIONS TO ANSWER FROM THE JUDGE, TO ANSWER A "YES

OR NO" QUESTION ON THE SUBJECT. THIS CAUSED ALL HIS TESTIMONY TO BE
STRICKEN, GREATLY WEAKENING PROSECUTION'S CASE. END FYI

5. TRIAL WAS NOT PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED BUT NEWSMEN LEARNED
OF IT BY THIRD DAY OF PROCEEDINGS. TRIAL WAS OPEN TO
PRESS BUT COVERAGE WAS SPORADIC PERHAPS OWING TO
NEWSPAPERS' PREOCCUPATION WITH JUNTA ERA TRIALS. COMMENT
HAS BEEN GENERALLY RESTRAINED. WHETHER
VERDICT AND SENTENCE WILL PRODUCE OUTCRY REMAINS TO BE
SEEN.
KUBISCH

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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